**Watercolour techniques for beginners**

**With Lynne Brown**

**Saturday 24 April 2021 9:30 – 3:30pm**

This workshop is suitable for beginners and is designed to introduce you in a fun and relaxed way to the magical medium of watercolour. Watercolour has qualities that no other medium has. You can quickly create luminous paintings with watercolour that are full of atmosphere. And one of its other fascinating and exciting qualities is that it sometimes seems to have a mind of its own, so you can have fun watching as textures form and the medium paints your picture for you!

In this workshop we will begin by looking at the three basic elements of painting in watercolour: WATER + COLOUR + PAPER, including some useful tips on choosing pigments and papers.

We will then learn fundamental watercolour techniques such as wet-in-wet, wet-on-dry, laying washes, blending and mixing colours and reserving highlights. We will also look at brush work and edge control.

Before lunch, the tutor will demonstrate each of the techniques discussed and allow plenty of time for you to try them for yourself. Then we will put this all into practice to create a simple but effective landscape scene.

Later on we will have fun exploring ways to “go with the flow” and create more dynamic and interesting paintings and let loose experimenting with some special techniques for getting texture and surface interest into our artwork.

**Suggested Materials List:**

* Artists’ quality watercolours, preferably tube colour rather than pans. You don’t need many: I use Ultramarine Blue; Permanent Alizarin Crimson or Permanent Rose; Burnt Sienna; Raw Sienna; New Gamboge or Quinacridone Gold; I also like Cobalt Blue.
* Brushes – A selection of watercolour brushes: Size 10 and 12 rounds are good. A flat ¾ or ½ inch brush, rigger for detail and a hake brush for washes are useful if you have them.
* 1 full sheet or a pad of 300gsm good quality cotton watercolour paper, medium (cold press) texture. This is the single most important item: don’t skimp on quality! Ask at Artery or AdArt if you aren’t sure.
* Cartridge paper or “draw and wash” paper for practice and sketching
* Notebook or art journal
* Backing board for your paper
* Scotch Magic Tape or masking tape (avoid blue tape though as it distorts your colour vision)
* A large white palette, tile or plate with plenty of mixing space: Op Shops are a good source of white platters and plates.
* A 2B pencil and eraser
* Tissues
* Your usual painting kit including a desk easel if you wish to use one. Alternatively, you can use a rolled-up towel or block of wood to prop up your board and provide a slope.